

ANNUAL REPORT OF CAREGIVERS OF WOLFEBORO 2008

The need for volunteers has been our greatest problem this year. Caregivers has been in existence for over 20 years. People are now more aware of the services offered so more calls are received. A service may be a trip to Dover for radiation, to Mary Hitchcock, to the Rehab Center, or friendly visiting to a senior. For example, for the year 2007, 1,376 individual services were provided; in 2008 there were 1,547. This works out to more than 6 services each working day in 2008.

We are always looking for more volunteers, especially drivers as this is the service most requested. We lose volunteers occasionally due to illness or age. Drivers tell us they love helping people. The clients say that do not know what they would do without our Caregivers.

We are still the only all volunteer Caregiver program in the State – no paid employees, no salaries, no benefits. This means all donations go directly for services. Keeping statistics is difficult especially when it is necessary to send a driver from one town to another town when there is no resident driver available. Requests are never turned down.

Currently we are reimbursing drivers for long-distant trips at the rate of \$.40 cents per mile when the driver requests it, not all make the request. Even with the price of gasoline recently, some drivers never request reimbursement. They say “just part of volunteerism”. Interesting to note, in 2007 Caregivers traveled 37,266 miles and in 2008, 48, 527.

We feel we are providing a greatly needed service, especially transportation to our community.

We appreciate your support, both financial and with volunteers. We plan to continue for many years to come.

Please contact us at 569-6780, Monday through Friday between 8:00am and 4:00pm. We will need 48 hours notice before the service is needed.

Respectfully submitted,

Shirley a. Bentley, Coordinator